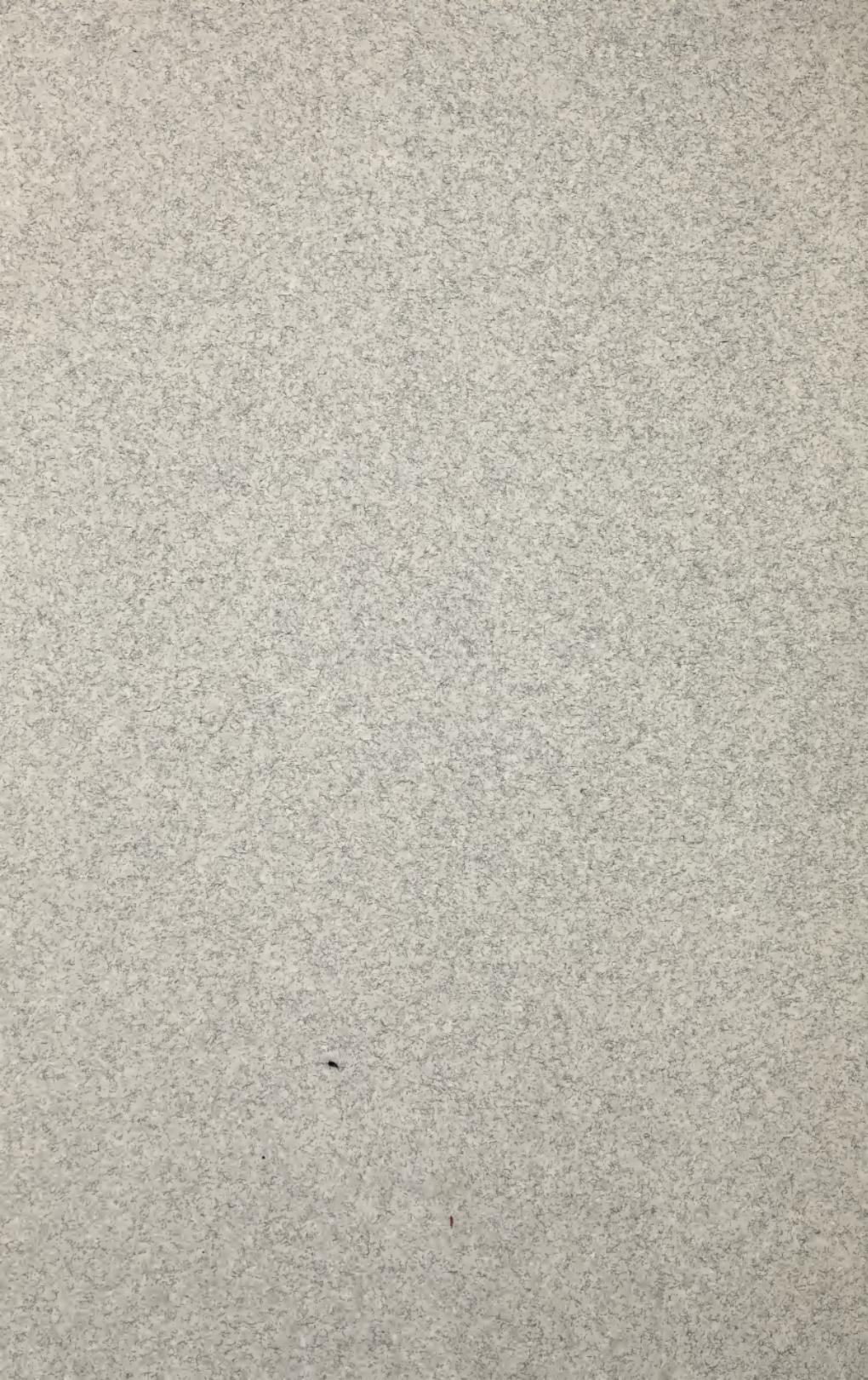


*Historical Sketches*  
*of the*  
*Edwards and Todd*  
*Families.*



HISTORIC SKETCHES

OF

THE EDWARDS AND TODD

FAMILIES

AND

THEIR DESCENDANTS.

1523--1895.

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BY GEORGIE HORTENSE EDWARDS.

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SPRINGFIELD, ILL.:  
H. W. ROKKER, PRINTER AND BINDER,  
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## PREFACE.

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Some months ago an invitation was extended to the writer to become a member of The Daughters of the American Revolution. To do this it became necessary to establish the fact that the applicant for membership is the descendant, directly or collaterally, from one who had served his country during the war of the American Revolution in the civil or military departments of the government.

It was not the intention, when this work was commenced, to look beyond the period of the Revolutionary War in searching out the antecedents of the writer's family, but, as the reading and research of such records as were found in the public libraries progressed, it was determined to enlarge the scope of the inquiry, and, to that end, other works and books of reference were purchased.

Much of the information obtainable has not been included here, though little has escaped notice, it being the aim simply to mention the officers of the higher grades, or those whose claims to distinction are historically assured.

The ancestry of the writer has been traced from the year 1523 down to the present time. Such information as has been given of the paternal and maternal ancestors of the writer; of the various public places filled by them, and of the services rendered by them to their country in Revolutionary times, has, necessarily, been briefly sketched—want of time and other circumstances being accountable therefor.

It was found, in the brief researches made, that of the ancestors of the writer who assisted in establishing American Independence during the War of the Revolution, the following are to be numbered: Eight great grandfathers, two great grandmothers, and sixteen great grand uncles; the great grandfathers and great grand uncles having held commissions in the American army, ranking from major generals down to captains. The references and proofs of the foregoing are on file with the Recording Secretary of the Daughters of the American Revolution, in the city of Washington, dated October 4, 1894, and numbered 4,604.

It was found, also, in the investigations made by the writer, that six Presidents of the United States, three Secretaries of War, one Secretary of the Treasury, two Attorneys General, five United States Ministers, five United States Senators and seven Governors, were descendants of, or connected by marriage with, the writer's ancestors.

G. H. E.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Dec. 1894.

HISTORIC SKETCHES  
OF  
THE EDWARDS AND TODD FAMILIES.  
*1523—1895.*

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THE EDWARDS FAMILY.

RICHARD EDWARDS.

RICHARD EDWARDS, the father of William and grandfather of Hayden, was born in Somersetshire in 1523. He was a musician and writer of interludes; studied at Corpus Christi college, Oxford; took his Master of Arts degree in 1547, entered at Lincoln's Inn, and was appointed, in 1561, a gentleman of the royal chapel and master of the singing boys. He died about the end of 1566, as his epitaph was written by Tuberville in the following year.

In his own day Edwards was held in the highest estimation. "He united," says Warton, "all those arts and accomplishments which minister to popular pleasantry; he was the most fashionable sonneteer, the readiest rhymers, and the most facetious mimic of the court."

He died in the year 1566, at "The Edwards Hall," situated near Cardiff, in Glemorganshire, Wales. This hall was built in the time of William the Conqueror, by Sir Godefor de Pomeroi, a Norman Knight, and came into the Edwards family by subsequent marriage, and was abandoned about

the year 1620, when the three brothers, Robert, William and Hayden, came to America to settle the land granted them for service rendered to the King. The ruins of the old hall are still standing, and a photograph is in the possession of his great, great, great, great, great, great, great granddaughter, Georgie Edwards.

#### HAYDEN EDWARDS.

My great, great, great grandfather, Hayden Edwards, was born in 1710 and died in 1800. He married Penelope Sanford. They had seven children—four sons and three daughters. A daughter married Benjamin Harrison, the father of William Henry Harrison. Hayden Edwards was a merchant and lawyer, and he served several times in the Legislature from Stafford and Westmoreland Counties, Virginia, but spent most of the time on his plantation in Westmoreland County.

[Letter from Mrs. Penelope E. Crouch.]

SAN AGUSTINE, TEXAS, Dec. 15, 1884.

DEAR COUSIN:—Yours of the 8th inst. has been received, together with the engraving of your father, both of which are greatly appreciated.

I will now write you a history of our branch of the Edwards family, as far as I know. I descended from Hayden Edwards who married a Miss Penelope Sanford, who emigrated from England to America before the Revolutionary war, with a brother and some other young men, Mrs. Penelope Edwards being the only lady on board of the vessel. The brother settled in one of the Northern states, Hayden and Penelope settled in Virginia. Their children were

as follows: Benjamin, the eldest and a prominent man, married a lady of Maryland; one son, John, from whom I descend, was a member of Congress; one son, Sanford, who settled in South Carolina; the youngest, George, settled in Kentucky. One of the daughters married Col. Pope, who had three distinguished sons, as follows: John Pope, senator, also governor of Arkansas, Nat., governor of Illinois, Alexander Pope, lawyer, of Louisville. My grandfather was Amos Edwards, who married his own cousin. Her name was Penelope Ashmore, daughter of Mary Edwards, who married Wm. Ashmore. She was the only child. My grandfather's brothers were as follows: Hayden, John, Gustavus and Benjamin. I could write a great deal about the family. Many I could mention, but do not think it necessary. You will see from my statement that we are the same family. I am proud of my Edwards connection. They are all people of intelligence. I believe you will be greatly surprised when I tell you I have in my possession the wedding dress of Penelope Sanford, who married Hayden Edwards. It is of elegant material,—we consider it a great curiosity. I inherited it with the name Penelope. I still find it impossible to find out the name of the brother who came over to America with Hayden Edwards, or the name of Robert Edwards' brothers. Could you not by some means assist in tracing up our heirship? The Secretary of the Edwards Heirs' Association writes me that there was a Hayden Edwards in the family he was tracing, and I thought probably we had proved ourselves heirs, and that he had not been able to trace his family. I think this property is well worth any exertion to recover it, as it is valued at between two

or three hundred millions and the city of Troy. I would be much pleased to hear from you again. Have you the life of your father—if so I would like to obtain a copy—and are you a man advanced in age? I think you or your father are cousin to my mother.

Your affectionate cousin,

P. E. CROUCH.

#### **BENJAMIN EDWARDS.**

Benjamin, son of Hayden Edwards, was my great, great grandfather. He was born in 1752 and died 1826. He married Margaret Beall, of Montgomery county, Maryland. He was a member of the State convention, of Maryland, that ratified the Federal Constitution, and a member of the General Assembly of Maryland and a member of the first Congress. The Hon. William Wirt was a member of Benjamin Edwards' family. He was received into the family of Mr. Edwards at the age of fifteen, nominally as a private tutor for his son. This arrangement was an act of kindness and beneficence on the part of Mr. Edwards to aid Mr. Wirt in his education without the restraint that charity imposes.

#### **SANFORD EDWARDS.**

Sanford Edwards, another son of Hayden Edwards, was surgeon general in General Marion's army. Dr. Berwick, one of the ablest and most distinguished of French surgeons, justly said of him: "Had Edwards lived in France, he would have been elected a member of the Royal Academy of Surgery, received from the King the Cross of the Legion of Honor, and obtained from the government a magnificent reward as an acknowledgment of the services he rendered

his country, his profession and his fellow creatures." His professional history is that of the greatest advance in surgical science of modern times. With a broad and elevated mind, and a heart gentle and tender as that of a woman, he was not afraid of the sight of blood; pre-eminently bold, his exceptional skill was aided by an unfailing nerve. He was no mere money grubber; careless as to pecuniary rewards, for the poor he had a kindness and a charity that were inexhaustible. He was born in 1742, and died in 1815.

#### **JOHN EDWARDS.**

John Edwards, another son of Hayden Edwards, was a member of the State convention of Virginia which ratified the Federal Constitution, and was one of the first two senators from Kentucky.

#### **NINIAN EDWARDS.**

My great grandfather, Ninian Edwards, was born in 1775, and died in 1833. He was a son of Benjamin Edwards. He was major of the Kentucky militia in 1802, Judge of the Court of Appeals in 1806, Chief Justice of the State of Kentucky in 1808, Governor of Illinois Territory from 1809 to 1818, United States Senator from Illinois, 1818 to 1824, Governor of Illinois from 1826 to 1830. He died in 1833, aged 58.

#### **FROM FORD'S HISTORY OF ILLINOIS.**

Ninian Edwards was born in Maryland and brought up in Kentucky. He was bred to the legal profession, and became attorney general of Kentucky at an early age. At the age of twenty-eight he was appointed chief justice of the high court of appeals. He held this office when he

was appointed the first governor of the Illinois territory in 1809. Edwards was a large, well made man, with a noble, princely appearance, which was a circumstance greatly in his favor, as governor over a rude people, of whom it may be said, that the animal greatly predominated over the intellectual man. In fact, it may well be questioned whether mankind ever will become so intellectual and spiritual, that mere size, vigor of muscle, and consequent animal spirits, will cease to have more influence with the multitude than mere intellect, unaided by these fleshly advantages. Gov. Edwards had been governor of the Illinois territory for nine years, and was then elected to the United States Senate. In this office he showed an extensive knowledge of public affairs, and became distinguished as a man of fine talents throughout the union. Whilst in the senate he was appointed by President Monroe to be minister to Mexico. It is worthy of remark here, that he never condescended to the common, low arts of electioneering. Whenever he went out among the people he arrayed himself in the style of a gentleman of the olden time, dressed in fine broadcloth, with short breeches, long stockings, and high, fair-topped boots; was drawn in a fine carriage, driven by a negro; and for success, he relied upon his speeches, which were delivered with great pomp, and in a style of diffuse and florid eloquence. When he was inaugurated in 1826, he appeared before the general assembly wearing a gold-laced cloak, and with great pomp he pronounced his first message to the two houses of the legislature. Governor Edwards died of cholera in Belleville, in the year 1833.

**NINIAN W. EDWARDS.**

My grandfather, Ninian W. Edwards, was the son of Ninian Edwards, the first and only territorial governor of Illinois, and was born April 15, 1809, near Frankfort, Ky. His father, at that time, was chief justice of the court of appeals of Kentucky. He was married to Elizabeth P. Todd, in Lexington, Ky., February 16, 1832. She was the daughter of Robert S. Todd. In 1834 Governor Reynolds appointed him attorney general of Illinois. In 1836 he was elected a representative in the legislature, and he served in the legislature, either in the senate or the house, from 1836 to 1852. He was also a member of the constitutional convention of 1848. In 1854 he was appointed by the governor attorney before the board of commissioners to investigate the claims of canal contractors against the state, amounting to over \$1,500,000. In 1854 he received the appointment of State Superintendent of Public Instruction by Governor Matteson, and was the first incumbent of that office. He was retained in this office by the legislature until 1857. He was always a champion of free schools, and drafted the law in regard to them which was first adopted in the State. In 1862 President Lincoln appointed him United States Commissary with the rank of major, which place he held until August, 1865. He had four children: Julia, wife of Hon. E. L. Baker, United States Consul at Buenos Ayres, appointed in 1873, and still holding the place (1894); Elizabeth E. Clover, Charles Edwards, and my father, Albert S. Edwards. Ninian W. Edwards died Sept. 2, 1889. His wife died Feb. 22, 1888. She was a sister of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. Mrs. Lincoln died at

the residence of my grandmother, Mrs. Ninian W. Edwards, July 16, 1882, the same house in which she was married November 2, 1842.

[From the Address of the Rt. Rev. George F. Seymour, Bishop of Springfield, May 1st, 1888.]

More recently our near neighbor, Mrs. Ninian W. Edwards, was suddenly prostrated by disease, and as it were, in a moment, taken out of this world. The loss to us is irreparable. She was the sister of Mrs. President Lincoln, and as the wife of Mr. Edwards, she was for many years one of the most prominent ladies of the State. Mrs. Edwards' winning sweetness and gentleness of character we have never seen excelled. Back of this exterior, so attractive, was a life of devotion hid with Christ in God. The better one knew her, the higher he placed her worth.

As a hostess, probably long practice had made her proficient, but native tact, and delicacy of feeling alone could have enabled her to acquire the success which she attained to a remarkable degree of radiating a charm upon the company over which she presided, whether old or young, and throwing upon them a spell, so subtle and prevailing, that it left an impression upon the memory, which was never likely afterwards to be effaced. Gracious and considerate and tender to the last, she bade her husband, when she was gone, to send as her offering to St. Agatha's school and the Orphanage of the Holy Child, articles of her household furniture to a very considerable amount, which would, as she well knew, with a refined woman's delicacy of perception, be highly useful to these institutions, in which she felt a deep interest. The donations are indeed prized, but chiefly as coming from her, and for her dear sake.

[From the Annual Address of the Rt. Rev. George F. Seymour, 1889.]

The departure of Ninian W. Edwards was not a surprise. He was old and full of days, and life was held by a very delicate thread, still he lingered on. He carried away with him the record of a long life well spent. He united epochs in his birth and death, which, were we to sketch them in reference to the conditions of our country, would seem to be centuries apart, so rapid has been the growth and so great the change since he was born, in 1809. Mr. Edwards fills no inconsiderable place in the history of this State, and it was his good fortune to be associated in most intimate relations with many eminent men. While his memory continued unimpaired, he was one of the best of living authorities in regard to State and national politics and jurisprudence. He was a thorough gentleman, and most anxious always that due and proper respect should be accorded to others, while he himself was extremely simple and unaffected in his tastes and manners. When we came to Springfield ten years ago, Mr. Edwards and his charming wife had already retired from society, but the tradition was that none had entertained more elegantly and with greater satisfaction to their guests than they had done in days gone by. It was our privilege to be admitted to their friendship, and to enjoy the privacy of a lovely home, on which the sun of life was setting. That sun has now gone down. The wife went first. We spoke of her departure in our last address; after an interval the husband has followed, and both now are gone. The church remembers them, she never forgets her children, since they are always in her dear embrace, whether they live or die, and the subjects of her prayers until the judgment.

**GENERAL ALBERT G. EDWARDS.**

General Albert G. Edwards was born in Lexington, Kentucky, on October 15, 1812. He was the second son of Gov. Ninian Edwards. Benjamin Edwards, the grandfather of General Edwards, was a member of the First Congress of the United States.

At the age of 14 years General Edwards entered school at West Point, where he graduated with honors, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant, and went with a company of artillery on the campaign against the Indians engaged in the Black Hawk war. At the close of the Black Hawk war he entered the United States Army as second lieutenant and served ten years, and then resigned his commission as major and went to St. Louis, where he engaged in the mercantile business. In 1862 Governor Gamble appointed him commander of the St. Louis division of State Guards, and for some time he had command of the troops of St. Louis. Later, Governor Gamble appointed him bank commissioner of Missouri, which position he held until he was appointed sub-treasurer of the United States, at St. Louis, by President Lincoln, a few days before the President was assassinated. This was the last appointment made by President Lincoln. He held the position of sub-treasurer until 1887. On June 4, 1850, he was married to Miss Mary Jencks, daughter of Daniel Jencks, whose father was Governor of the State of Rhode Island. Benjamin F., George L. and Albert N., sons of General Edwards, are engaged in business in St. Louis. General Edwards died in 1892.

**BENJAMIN S. EDWARDS.**

Benjamin S. Edwards was born on the 3d day of June, 1818, in Madison county, Illinois, and died in Springfield, Illinois, February 4, 1886. He was a brother of my grandfather, Ninian Wirt Edwards, and the youngest son of Ninian Edwards, the first governor of Illinois territory, afterwards United States senator, and the third governor of the State. Benjamin S. Edwards graduated in Yale college in the class of 1838, studied law at the law school connected with that college, and in 1840 completed his preparatory studies for the profession with Hon. Stephen T. Logan, of this city, and in March, 1841, commenced to practice. He was contemporary with such legal lights as Stephen A. Douglas, Abraham Lincoln, Stephen T. Logan, Col. E. D. Baker, Jesse B. Thomas, McDougal and Lamborn—men who have passed into history as “giants of their day.” The fact that he was able to attain and maintain a prominent position among such men, attests his ability and energy as a lawyer. He was regarded as the model of industry in the profession, and a life student in the science of law; standing as he did, the peer of the most distinguished, he had measured swords at the bar of the most eminent tribunals, with all the most distinguished legal spartans, and always acquired a fresh laural to his professional wreath.

He had but little taste, and less admiration for the political arena, but on several occasions yielding to the desire of his neighbors and friends, whose confidence he never compromised, he permitted them to nominate him first for the constitutional convention of 1862, to which he

was elected, and then for congress in 1868, in a district largely opposed to him politically, the majority of which he greatly reduced, although his opponent was highly popular with his party. In 1869, in response to a very general demand on the part of the bar and people, regardless of party bias, he became a candidate for Judge of the Sangamon County Circuit Court, and was elected. He discharged the duties of the position in a manner eminently satisfactory to lawyers and litigants, but retired from the bench before the expiration of the term for which he was elected, and resumed the active practice of the profession which he loved and adorned.

On the 13th of August, 1839, he was married to Miss Helen K. Dodge, daughter of Col. Henry S. Dodge, and granddaughter of Dr. John Varick, of New York City, and great granddaughter of Theodorus Van Wyck, of Holland, and thus related to the "Knickerbocker" families of Van Wycks, Van Cortlandt, and Van Rensselaers, on the Hudson.

#### MRS. HELEN K. EDWARDS.

Mrs. Helen K. Edwards, wife of Judge Edwards, was born in Kaskaskia, November 14, 1819. She resides at the old homestead in this city surrounded by her three daughters, Helen M., wife of Moses B. Condell, a prosperous farmer of this county, Alice, wife of Benjamin H. Ferguson, a prominent banker of this city, and Mary Stuart, wife of James H. Raymond, a prominent lawyer of Chicago, and her grandchildren.

Mrs. Jane Dey Dodge, mother of Mrs. Edwards, was born in 1790; was married to Col. Henry S. Dodge in 1813. They removed in 1817 from New York City to Kas-

kaskia, Ill. Here they resided seven years. As early settlers in Illinois, and living among French and Indians, they experienced many vicissitudes and trials. In 1839 Mrs. Dodge removed to this city and took up her abode with her daughter, with whom she continued to reside till her death, on December 19, 1876.

#### DANIEL P. COOK.

Daniel P. Cook was a native of Kentucky; immigrated to the territory of Illinois in 1815. He married Julia, a daughter of Gov. Edwards. He was the first Attorney General of the State of Illinois, and represented the State in congress from 1820 to 1827, and filled, with great ability, his duties as chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, and was considered by such men as Madison, Monroe, Calhoun, McLean and others, as a man of remarkable talents.

He was undoubtedly one of the ablest and most remarkable men whose name ever graced the annals of Illinois. He was three times re-elected, making a service of eight years. He was but just of the constitutional age when he made his first canvass. He discharged the duties of that most onerous and responsible position with so much ability and evinced such a thorough knowledge of all matters which came before the committee and the house, as to challenge the respect and admiration of all the members, and this was at a time when his health was failing and his physical powers were becoming exhausted. It seemed that as his bodily weakness increased, his great mental qualities shone brighter and brighter. He died at the age of thirty-two years in October, 1827.

**GENERAL JOHN COOK.**

General John Cook was the only child of Daniel P. Cook. He was born June 12, 1826, in Belleville, Illinois, and married Susan A. Lamb, in Springfield, Ill., Oct. 20, 1847. Mrs. Cook was born in Kaskaskia, April 3, 1828. They had seven children, four of whom died in infancy; James L. and John C. Cook reside in Springfield, and William J. in Chicago.

In 1854, General John Cook was elected mayor of Springfield, and in 1856, sheriff of Sangamon county. At the expiration of his term, Governor Bissell appointed him Quartermaster General of Illinois, and in 1858 he organized an independent military company, called the Springfield Zouave Grays, and was chosen captain. This company was accepted by Governor Yates, under the State's quota of 75,000 men, in 1861, and was the nucleus of the 1st Regiment, Ill. Vol. Inf., of which he was chosen colonel, and which was called No. 7, in honor of the six regiments furnished by Illinois for the Mexican War. Colonel Cook's commission was dated April 24, 1861, and the regiment was mustered in at Camp Yates, April 25, 1861, and was consequently the first regiment to enter the field from Illinois for suppressing the rebellion. Feb. 3, 1862, he was assigned to the command of General Charles F. Smith, in the movement up the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers. After the capture of Fort Donelson, Colonel Cook was commissioned Brigadier General for gallant conduct. During the advance on Corinth he was ordered to report to the Secretary of War, and was assigned a command consisting of his brigade, with two brigades from General Shield's

division, eleven batteries of artillery, and two regiments of cavalry. After McClellan's retreat from Harrison's Landing and Pope's retreat from the valley, General Cook was relieved at his own request, and the following fall was ordered to report to Major General John Pope, commanding the military department of the northwest, under whom he remained until Oct. 9, 1864, when he was assigned command of the military district of Illinois, with headquarters at Springfield. He was there mustered out, having been previously commissioned by President Johnson, Major General by brevet. He was elected, in the fall of 1868, representative in the Illinois State Legislature from Sangamon county. He was instrumental in securing the second appropriation for the erection of the new state house. General Cook now resides in the State of Michigan.

#### CHARLES EDWARDS.

Charles Edwards, the second son of Ninian W. Edwards, born July 6, 1846, in Springfield, was attending Yale college in the early part of the Rebellion, and left there in the latter part of 1863 to fill a position in the Commissary department of the United States army. After the war he was an instructor in Bryant & Stratton's commercial college in Springfield for a short time. Charles Edwards was married in Springfield, February 18, 1868, to Mary Hickox, daughter of Hon. Virgil Hickox. They have one child, Edith, and reside in Lagrange, Cook County, Ill. Charles Edwards was connected with the *Illinois State Journal*, and at one time was one of the proprietors of the *Illinois State Register*.

About fifteen years ago he removed to Chicago to take an interest in the Shober-Carqueville Lithographing Company, of Chicago. He is now secretary and treasurer of the Rokker-O'Donnell Printing Company, of Chicago.

#### JULIA EDWARDS BAKER.

Julia C., daughter of Ninian W. Edwards, born April 29, 1837, in Springfield, was married June 3, 1855, to Edward L. Baker, who was born June 3, 1829, in Kaskaskia, the ancient capital of Illinois. His father, Hon. David J. Baker, was a native of the State of New York, and came to Illinois in the year 1818. He became one of the prominent lawyers of the young State. E. L. Baker was educated at Shurtleff, college, Alton, Ill., and graduated in 1847. He read law with his father two years, after which he attended Harvard law school, and was admitted to the bar, in Springfield, in 1855. He became part owner and editor of the *Illinois State Journal*, and, in 1869, was appointed United States Assessor, remaining in that office until it was abolished. December 8, 1873, he was appointed United States Consul to Buenos Ayers, Argentine Republic, South America, and still (1894) holds the place. Edward L. Baker and wife have three children; Edward L., Jr., is Assistant Clerk of the Supreme Court of Nebraska, at Lincoln, Neb., Willis E. is United States Consul at Rosario, Argentine Republic, South America, and Julia E. resides with her father and mother.

**ELIZABETH EDWARDS CLOVER.**

Elizabeth E., second daughter of Ninian W. Edwards, born January 7, 1843, in Springfield, Ill., was married May 11, 1863, to Eugene P. Clover, son of Rev. Dr. Clover, at one time Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Springfield, Ill. E. P. Clover was killed at the battle of Wichita, leaving a widow and two sons, Lewis P. and Leigh K. Mrs. Clover resides in Milwaukee, Wis.

**ALBERT S. EDWARDS.**

My father, Albert S. Edwards; was born Dec. 15, 1839. He is the son of Ninian W. Edwards, and grandson of Governor Ninian Edwards. On June 3, 1863, he was married to Miss Josephine E. Remann, daughter of Henry C. and Mary Black Remann, and great granddaughter of Colonel James Black of the war of the revolution. Colonel Black belonged to one of 16 regiments in the continental service, officered by General George Washington, and not belonging to the line of any particular State, but credited to the State of New York.

My grandfather, Henry C. Remann, was born in 1816, and died Dec. 10, 1849.

**MARY B. REMANN.**

My grandmother, Mary B. Remann, was born March 5, 1823, and died Feb. 7, 1888, they were married April 15, 1841. My mother, Josephine E. Edwards, daughter of Henry C. and Mary Black Remann, was born April 28, 1842. She is the sister of Henry C. and Mary J. Remann, of this city.

I have one brother, and one sister, Ninian Wirt Edwards, and Mary E. Brown, wife of Charles R. Brown, of Spokane, Wash. They were married May 4, 1886.

My father was appointed by President Lincoln Assistant United States Commissary of Subsistence for the State of Illinois, July 1, 1861, and served until July 1, 1865; he resigned to enter the mercantile business.

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#### T H E T O D D F A M I L Y .

What is known of the antecedents of the Todd family is most honorable. Of the covenanters captured at Bothwell Brigg, two hundred and fifty were sentenced to be transported to America; and two hundred of these were drowned in the shipwreck of the vessel conveying them, off Orkney. They had been shut up below the hatches of the ship by the order of Paterson, the cruel merchant who had contracted for their transportation and sale. Fifty escaped and afterward took part in the defense of Londonderry. Among those who were drowned were Robert Todd, of Fenwick, and James Todd, of Dunbar. In 1679—the year in which Robert Todd, of Fenwick, was drowned—John Todd fled from the persecutions of Claverhouse, in Scotland, to find refuge in the north of Ireland. Two of his grandsons, Andrew and Robert Todd, came with their families to America in 1737. Robert Todd was my great, great, great grandfather.

**ROBERT TODD.**

My great, great, great grandfather, Robert Todd was born in Ireland, in 1697; died in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, in 1775, and was buried in the churchyard of the Providence Presbyterian Church. His first wife, whose name is supposed to have been Smith, died and was buried in Ireland. In Ireland he married, for a second wife, Isabella, sister of General William Bodley. The mother of Isabella and General Wm. Bodley was a Parker, a name which belongs to many families of note in Pennsylvania. By his first wife he had two sons, John and David. By the second wife he had five sons and four daughters, William, Andrew, Robert, Samuel, Levi, Elizabeth, Mary, Rebecca and Sarah. David Todd, my great, great, great grandfather, the second son of Robert Todd, was born in Ireland, April, 8th, 1723, and when a child, was brought by his father to Pennsylvania. His wife, whom he married in Pennsylvania, was Hannah Owen, of Welsh descent and a quakeress. They had four sons and two daughters, John, Robert, Levi, Owen, Elizabeth and Hannah.

**COL. JOHN TODD.**

Col. John Todd was an aide to General Andrew Lewis in the battle of Point Pleasant. He succeeded General George Rogers Clarke in command at Kaskaskia, in 1778, and was several years civil governor and colonel of the county of Illinois. He was commandant of the Kentucky forces at the battle of Blue Licks, August, 18, 1782, and was killed in this battle.

**GENERAL ROBERT TODD.**

General Robert Todd, second son of David Todd, was wounded in the defense of McClellan's Fort, now Georgetown, in 1776; continued to be an active and brave soldier all through the troubles with the Indians, and was often intrusted with important commands.

**GENERAL LEVI TODD.**

General Levi Todd, my great great grandfather, third son of David Todd, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1756; was educated in Virginia, studied law, became a surveyor, went early to Kentucky, and was one of the defenders of the fort at Harrodsburg; he afterwards assisted Logan to hold St. Asaphs; was major, colonel, brigadier and major general of the Kentucky forces until his death, in 1807. He married Jane Briggs and had eleven children, Hannah, Elizabeth, John, Nancy, David, Ann Maria, Robert S., Jane, Margaret, Roger North and Samuel.

**JANE BRIGGS.**

General Levi Todd married Jane Briggs, in the fort of St. Asaphs, in Lincoln County, Kentucky, February, 25, 1779. St. Asaphs was then a fortified station defended by strong arms and brave hearts. We may be sure there were no engraved cards tied with silken ribbons to bid the guest to the wedding feast, no tables decked with silver plate emblazoned with coats of arms, no guest arrayed in immodest gown bought from some mantua-maker in Paris. There was no printing press, much less an engraver, within hundreds of miles. Those shrewd men and heroic women, to

whom our people are indebted for most that is either good or powerful in them, were too seriously grappling with the stern realities of life to think or dream of the lying vanities paraded in most American armorial bearings. And it is the boast of the sensible descendants of fair Jane Briggs, that with her own brisk hands she spun and wove her wedding dress from the fiber of the wild cotton weed. The men who witnessed the exchange of vows knew that at any moment they might be ordered to march; the women, that at break of day they might bid their loved ones a last farewell. No shoddy nor pinchback was there; nor any shabby imitation of the coarse profusion of an intrinsically vulgar English Squirearchy.

#### **ROBERT S. TODD.**

Robert S. Todd, my great grandfather; seventh child of General Levi Todd, was born near Lexington, Ky., February 25, 1791, and died July 15, 1849. When about 30 years old he was elected clerk of the Kentucky House of Representatives, and, by successive elections, held the position for twenty years; he was then three times elected representative from Fayette County; in 1845 was elected to the State Senate, and was a candidate for re-election when he died. He was twice married; first to his near relative, Eliza Ann Parker, a granddaughter of General Andrew Porter. They had six children, Elizabeth, Levi, George, Frances, Mary and Ann. Mary was the wife of President Lincoln, Elizabeth, my grandmother, married Ninian W. Edwards, February 16th, 1832.

**FRANCES TODD WALLACE.**

Frances Todd Wallace, a daughter of Robert S. Todd, and granddaughter of General Levi Todd, was born in 1817, in Lexington, Ky., was married to Dr. William S. Wallace, May, 1839. Dr. Wallace came to Springfield, Ill., in 1836, and at once engaged in the practice of his profession. He was born August 10, 1802, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. In 1861 he was appointed by President Lincoln Paymaster in the United States army. After the suppression of the Rebellion he was placed on the retired list, and died May 23, 1867. His widow resides in Springfield. They had five children, William F., Frances, Edward D., Charles E., and Mary F.

Mary F. Wallace was married to Col. John P. Baker, November 15, 1865. Col. Baker was born July 24, 1838, at Kaskaskia, Ill. In March, 1861, he was appointed by President Lincoln Second Lieutenant in the First United States Dragoons, placed on duty in Washington City, and was at the battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861. He served on staff duty at the headquarters of the Sixth Army Corps, in the Army of the Potomac; also on staff duty as Inspector General at Savannah, Ga., in 1865. Lieutenant Baker was promoted, July 17, 1862, to Captain in the First United States Cavalry, April 9, 1864, brevet Major in the regular army for gallantry and meritorious service at Pleasant Hill, La.; also brevet Lieutenant Colonel for gallant and meritorious services during the war. He resigned his commission in July, 1868. In 1883 he was appointed Paymaster in the United States army.

**EMILIE TODD HELM.**

Emilie Todd, the fourth child of Robert S. Todd, by his second wife, married General Ben Hardin Helm in 1856. He was the son of Governor John L. Helm, of Kentucky. John L. Helm was eleven times elected to the House of Representatives of Kentucky, his terms of service extending from 1826 to 1843, and was five times chosen Speaker of that body. He was elected to the Senate 1844-48. He was Governor in 1850. In 1865 he was again elected to the State Senate and served until 1867. In the latter year he was again elected Governor of the State by a very large majority. General Ben Hardin Helm was born June 2, 1831. He was mortally wounded in the battle of Chickamauga, and died the same day, September 20, 1863. Emilie Todd Helm is living in Elizabethtown, Ky.

**ANN TODD SMITH.**

Ann Todd, the fourth daughter of Robert S. Todd, by his first wife, married C. M. Smith, a prominent merchant of Springfield, Ill. They had four children. Edgar and Allen are living in this city and Clara and Minnie in Chicago. Ann Todd Smith died March 21, 1891. C. M. Smith was born May 16, 1820, and died July 29, 1885.

**LEVI TODD.**

Levi Todd, son of General Levi Todd, married Louisa Searles, of Lexington, Ky. Their daughter, Mrs. Louisa Todd Keyes, is the wife of Edward D. Keyes, a prominent banker, of Springfield, Ill.

**MARY ELLEN YOUNG.**

Elizabeth, second child of my great, great, grandfather, General Levi Todd, married Charles Carr, of Fayette County, Kentucky, son of Walter Carr, who was a member of the Kentucky Convention of 1799, and was several times in the Legislature. They had twelve children. Their son, Charles Carr, a lawyer, was for years Judge of the Fayette County Court. His wife was a Miss Didlake. Their daughter, Mary Ellen Young, married Alfred M. Young, July 8, 1846. One of her daughters, Lizzie Todd Brent, is the wife of Charles S. Brent, of Lexington, Ky. Another daughter, Susan, married John C. Lanphier, a prominent lawyer, of Springfield, Ill.

Mary Ellen Young was born December 9, 1824, and died January 22, 1885. Alfred M. Young was born January 8, 1808, and died March 7, 1870.

**D R. JOHN TODD.**

Dr. John Todd, son of General Levi Todd, was born April 27, 1787, near Lexington, Ky. He was married July 1, 1813, to Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Rev. John Blair Smith, D. D. She was born April 18, 1793, in Philadelphia. Her mother was a daughter of General Nash, a leader in the American Revolution, from Virginia. Dr. Todd was appointed Surgeon General of the Kentucky troops in the war of 1812, and was at the battle and massacre of the River Raisin in Canada, where he was captured. In 1827 he was appointed by President John Quincy Adams Register of the United States Land Office at Springfield, Ill. Dr. Todd and wife had six children. He died January 9, 1865,

and she died March 11, 1865. Dr. Todd and wife celebrated their golden wedding July 1, 1863. One of their daughters, Elizabeth Todd, is the widow of the Rev. John H. Brown, and resides in this city. She was born in January, 1825. Another daughter of Dr. John Todd, Frances S., was the first wife of Thomas H. Shelby, a grandson of Governor Isaac Shelby, of Kentucky, and John Todd Shelby, of Lexington, Ky., is her son. She was born December 19, 1832, and died February 1, 1851.

#### **ROGER NORTH TODD.**

Roger North Todd, tenth child of General Levi Todd, married Miss Ferguson. They had eight children. Their son, Robert L. Todd, married, first, Sallie Hall, a daughter of Rev. Nathan K. Hall, an eminent Presbyterian divine. The mother of Sallie Hall was a daughter of Colonel William Pope, one of the first settlers at the Falls of the Ohio, and an aunt of General John Pope. After the death of this wife, Mr. Todd married, secondly, Martha Edwards, daughter of Dr. Benjamin Edwards, of St. Louis, whose wife was a daughter of Willis Green of Lincoln County, Kentucky.

#### **JOHN TODD STUART.**

Hannah, the oldest daughter of General Levi Todd, was born in the fort at Harrodsburg, in the year 1780. Contemporary description represents her to have been of unusual beauty of face and person in her youth, and, in maturer years, as a woman of uncommon force of character. In the early bloom of womanhood, she became the wife of Rev. Robert Stuart, a native of Virginia. She died in 1832. They had seven children. John Todd Stuart, son

of Hannah Todd Stuart, was born near Lexington, Ky., November 10, 1807. He was married October 25, 1837, to Mary Virginia, daughter of General Francis Nash. He was a grand-nephew of the General Francis Nash who was killed in the battle of Germantown during the Revolutionary War. They had six children—Betty, John T., Frank, Robert L., Virginia, and Hannah. His widow resides in this city.

John Todd Stuart graduated at Centre College, Danville, Ky., in 1826, studied law with Judge Breckinridge in Richmond, Ky., and came to Springfield, Ill., October 25, 1828. He at once engaged in the practice of his profession, and when the Indian trouble came on, that culminated in the Black Hawk War, Mr. Stuart became the Major of the battalion in which Abraham Lincoln commanded a company. In 1832 he was elected to the Legislature, and re-elected in 1834. He had so grown in the confidence and attachment of the people that there was a pressing demand for his services, although he had only attained the age of 25 years. As a lawyer, it is sufficient of John T. Stuart that he held his own with such men as Davis, Lincoln, Douglas, Logan, Harlin, Baker, and other men of like caliber. In 1838 he was elected a member of Congress, and again in 1840, from the Springfield district. In 1843 he formed a partnership with Benjamin S. Edwards, under the firm name of Stuart & Edwards, lawyers, and they continued together until the death of Mr. Stuart. In 1848 he was elected to the State Senate. He was out of politics after that until 1862, when he was elected to Congress from this district.

**EPHRAIM M'DOWELL.**

The grandfather of my great, great, great grandmother, Elizabeth McDowell Porter, was born in the year 1672, in Argyleshire, and emigrated to America in 1729, arriving on the good ship "George and Ann" on the 4th day of September, and settled in Pennsylvania. The following sketch is from the life of Ephraim McDowell.

Of all the fierce and warlike septs that ranged themselves beside the Campbells, under the leadership of the chiefs of that name, in the struggles so replete with deeds of crime and heroism, of oppression and stubborn resistance, which had their fruit in the overthrow of the right line of the Stuarts, there was none more respectable, nor one which more perfectly illustrated the best qualities of their race than the sons of Dowall. Sprung from Dougall, the son of Ronald, the son of the great and famous Somerled, they had, from the misty ages, marched and fought under the Cloudberry bush, as the badge of their clan, and had marshaled under the banner of the Ancient Lords of Lorne, the chiefs of their race. The form of McDowell was adopted by those of the McDougal clan who held lands in Galloway, to which they, the Black Gaels, had given its name. The latter branch became allied by blood and intermarriages with the Campbells. Presbyterians of the strictest sect, and deeply imbued with that love of civil and religious freedom which has ever characterized the followers of John Knox, they found their natural leaders in the House of Argyle. In what degree related to the chiefs of the name was the McDowell who left behind him the hills of his native Argyleshire, to settle with others of his name and kindred

and religion in the North of Ireland, during the Protectorate of Cromwell, can not be accurately stated; he was, so far as can be gleaned from vague traditions, one of the most reputable of the colonists who there founded the race known as the "Scotch-Irish," the characteristics of which have since been so splendidly attested by its heroes, scholars, orators, theologians and statesmen all over the world. This Scotch Colonist, McDowell, had among other children, a son name Ephraim, which, of itself, indicates that he was a child of the Covenant. It was fitting that Ephraim McDowell should become, at the early age of sixteen years, one of the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians who flew to the defence of heroic Londonderry, on the approach of McDowell of Antrim, on the 9th of December, 1688, and that he should be one of the band who closed the gates against the native Irishry, intent on blood and rapine. During the long siege that followed, the memory of which will ever bid defiance to the effacing hand of time, and in which the devoted preacher, George Walker, and the brave Murray, at the head of their undisciplined fellow-citizens—farmers, shopkeepers, mechanics and apprentices—but Protestants, Presbyterians—successfully repelled the assaults of Rosen, Marmont, Persignan and Hamilton—the McDowell was conspicuous for endurance and bravery in a band where all were brave as the most heroic Greek who fell at Thermopyle. The maiden name of the woman who became the worthy helpmeet of the Londonderry soldier boy was Margaret Irvine, his own, full first cousin. She was a member of an honorable Scotch family who settled in Ireland at the same time as their kinspeople, the McDowell's.

The name was and is one of note in Scotland, where those who bore it had intermarried with the most prominent families of the kingdom, breeding races of soldiers, statesmen, orators and divines.

Remarkable in many ways, other than the great age of more than a century to which he lived, the span of Ephraim McDowell's life covered the overthrow of the Stuarts; the rise of the House of Hanover; the establishment of the Empire of Britain in India and over the seas; the wresting of New York from the Dutch, and the expulsion of the French from North America; the erection of the electorate of Brandenburg into the Kingdom of Prussia; the victories of Marlborough and Eugene, and of the great Frederick; the consolidation of the Russian Empire under Peter and his successors; the opening of the great west by the daring pioneers, and the growth of liberalism in Great Britain, France and America. Foremost of the virtuous and hardy community, planted chiefly by his influence and exertions, he and his associates erected school houses and churches in the valley, even before they erected forts. Eminently useful and practical in the character of his mind and the manner of his life, Howe records the fact that he built the first road across the Blue Ridge, to connect the valley with the tide-water country, at once affording a mode of egress for the productions of the former, and facilities for receiving from the merchants of the latter the manufactures of the old world. Religious, moral, intelligent and shrewd, the singular and beneficent influence he acquired among the independent and intrepid spirits by whom he was surrounded, was a natural tribute to his virtue, sagacity and unflinch-

ing devotion to the cause of civil and religious liberty he had all his life upheld. It is scarcely necessary to state of such a man, at once hospitable and provident, that he failed not to use the opportunities with which fair and generous nature had surrounded him to reap and store a fortune considered very large in those days. Retaining full possession of all his faculties to the very last, he died not until the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, and not until he had heard the praises bestowed on his grandchildren for good conduct shown at the battle of Point Pleasant.

#### ROBERT PORTER.

Robert Porter emigrated to America from Ireland in the year 1720. He came from what is known as the Isle of Bert, which is distant about nine miles from the city of Londonderry. The ruins of the dwelling which his father occupied may yet be seen. The original farm has been divided into several parts, and continues to be occupied and cultivated by those of the same family. It is a bold and picturesque country, and a fit place for the rearing of men of energy and decision. He landed at Londonderry, New Hampshire, and soon afterwards purchased and settled on a farm in what is now Worcester township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, about four miles distant from Norristown. He occupied this farm until the day of his death, which took place on the 14th of July, 1770, in the seventy-second year of his age. The records of the church show that in 1741 he was an elder in the Norristown Presbyterian church. He reared a large family—nine sons and five daughters. Some of his sons moved westward and some

southward. The most successful and prominent of his sons was my great, great, great grandfather, General Andrew Porter, born on his father's farm on the 24th of September, 1743.

#### **GENERAL ANDREW PORTER.**

General Andrew Porter was twice married; first to Elizabeth McDowell, on the 10th of March, 1767, a daughter of General McDowell, of the Revolution, and secondly to Elizabeth, daughter of William Parker and Elizabeth Todd, on the 20th of May, 1777. The brother of his second wife was<sup>2</sup> the gallant Major Parker, of the Revolution. Elizabeth Porter, the oldest daughter by his first wife, married Robert Parker, son of James Parker and Mary Todd, and first cousin of General Porter's second wife. She was the grandmother of the wife of President Lincoln and of my grandmother, Elizabeth Todd Edwards. This Robert Parker was also a major in the Revolution. This marriage took place in 1790, and the newly wedded pair made their bridal trip from Pennsylvania to Lexington, Kentucky, on horseback. They had four sons and two daughters. Eliza Parker married Robert S. Todd, and was the mother of Mary Todd Lincoln, and my grandmother, Elizabeth Todd Edwards.

General Andrew Porter entered the service on the 19th day of June, 1776. He was successively promoted to the ranks of major, lieutenant colonel, colonel commandant and brigadier and major general of the Pennsylvania forces. In the war of 1812 he was appointed by President Madison brigadier general in the regular army and Secretary of War, but declined both positions on the ground that a younger man might serve the country more efficiently.

**ELIZABETH PARKER PORTER.**

Some service was rendered by my great, great, great grandmother, Elizabeth Parker Porter, towards the establishment of American Independence during the war of the Revolution.

This lady was the wife of General Andrew Porter and the sister of Lieutenant, afterwards captain and then major, Parker. They were married on the 20th of May, 1777. She was evidently a woman of unusual prudence in the conduct of her household affairs. During her husband's long absences she managed his business, superintended the farm and instructed her children with beautiful devotion and fidelity. Her husband was heard to say that, during the war, he never wore a garment which did not display the evidence of her skill in needlework. General Knox said to him: "Porter, how does it happen that you look so genteel when the rest of us are in rags, and you are receiving no better pay than we?" "You must ask my wife," he replied; "I thought this coat had seen its best days, but recently she took it home, took it apart, turned the inside of the cloth outward, and now you see it is almost as good as new."

This lady had a real adventure to relate. While the army was at Valley Forge she was accustomed to visit her husband, carrying with her some small delicacies for his use, or garments made with her own hands, and these visits were generally made on horseback. One evening, on approaching the camp, she met a gentleman in undress uniform, of whose rank she was ignorant. He adjusted for her some part of the trappings of the horse and paid a

compliment to the animal which, she informed him, was of their own raising. On learning her name he walked slowly beside her horse to the camp, asking her on the way a variety of questions respecting the inhabitants, and especially their feelings towards the army and the war. On reaching the encampment he said: "I think I see your husband," and, bowing politely, turned away. The face of the latter wore an unusually pleasant smile. "Well, my good lady," said he, "you come into camp highly escorted." "By whom," she asked. "By the Commander-in-Chief," was the reply. "Not by Washington!" It was even so. She turned to take another look, but her escort had disappeared. This was an incident of which neither her children nor her grandchildren spared her the repetition, and, as a faithful chronicler, I am bound to state that she did not avoid any proper occasion for repeating it.

There is an incident which connects the name of General Porter with that of Lafayette, whose remarkable memory of persons has often been spoken of. When the French hero visited this country in 1824, Mr. James M. Porter, of Easton, Pennsylvania, went, as did a vast number of others, to greet him in New York. When Mr. Porter's part of the column reached the General the latter said, on hearing the name, "Porter, Porter, I remember that name. Any relation of Captain Porter, whom I met at the Brandywine?" "Yes, sir; a son." "Well, sir, bless you for your father's sake. He was a brave man. He had with him there a young man, a relative, I think, whose name I have forgotten. They fought very nearly together." Mr. J. M. Porter asked, "Was it Parker?" Gen. Lafayette: "Yes,

that was the name." Mr. Porter: "He was my mother's brother." Gen. Lafayette: "Ah, indeed; well they were both good soldiers and very kind to me when I was wounded. Farewell, young gentleman, I wish you well for their sakes."

Mr. George B. Porter, of Lancaster, Pa., came to Philadelphia to meet Lafayette when he reached that city, and as Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, took part in his reception. On hearing of the incident just related, he invited the General to visit Lancaster and to become his guest while there. The invitation was accepted, and General Lafayette thus renewed with the children an acquaintance begun with the father. The then youngest son of Mr. George B. Porter was an infant and without a name. He was thereupon named Lafayette, and during the ceremony of baptism the aged statesman and warrior held the infant in his arms.





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